THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Selection of newspaper, periodicals by Indian Airlines for inflight reading

2498. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Indian Airlines in selecting various newspapers, periodicals, etc. for inflight reading ;

(b) the names of various newspapers periodicals patronised by Indian Airlines at present for inflight reading, the respective places of their publications and the quantum of each such paper/periodical at present purchased for the purpose ;

(c) whether Indian Airlines also patronises any regional newspaper/periodical at present for the said purpose; if so, the names, respective places of publication and quantum of each such paper/periodical lifted ;

(d) whether some applications from regional publishers of newspapers/periodicals for inclusion of their regional papers, etc. for inflight reading are pending at present; if so, the names of such newspapers/periodicals; and

(e) by when Indian Airlines propose to decide on these applications ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Newspapers with a minimum circulation of 30,000 and business newspapers and periodicals with a minumum circulation of 20,000 are considered for this purpose.

(b) and (c) The names of various newspapers and periodicals presently purchased by Indian Airlines and the volume of purchase of such publications are shown in Annexures [*See* Appendix CLXI, Annexure Nos. 61 and 62] Indian Airlines buys newspapers/periodicals published in the base stations of Indian Airlines and these are placed on the flights originating from such station.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Development of Airports in North Eastern Region

2499. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISAM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amounts spent by National Airports Authority on the strengthening/development of Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Imphal and Agartala airports and the improvement of facilities in these airports, airport-wise during last five years, year-wise break-up ;

(b) whether facilities available at Dibrugarh airport at present are almost same as they were a decade or two back;

(c) if so, the reasons for not developing the same in accordance with the continuous increase in Air traffic to/from this airport over the years and if not the specific improvements made in the facilities available at Dibrugarh during the last five years, year-wise details; and

(d) whether Government have any specific plans to strengthen/develop Dibrugarh airport and re-model the existing outdated terminal building there, if so, the specific steps taken in this regard so far and the amounts sanctioned for the purpose in the current year and the coming three years; year-wise break-up and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) As per statement attached. (*See* below)

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Under-mentioned improvements have been made at Dibrugarh ;

(i) Instrument Landing system has been installed during the year 1988.

(ii) X-ray Baggage Machine has been installed in 1986-87.

(iii) Arrival hall and car park have been constructed in 1988—90.

(iv) SSB channel has been installed during current year.

(v) New Taperecorder installed in February, 1988.

(vi) VOR, ILS with glidepath DME commissioned in November, 1989.

(vii) New NDB commissioned in Dec-1990.

(d) Yes, Sir. There is a plan to install a conveyer belt in the newly constructed arrival hall. An estimatefor an amount of Rs. 79.77lakhs has alsobeen prepared for installation of night landing facilities at Dibrugarh. The work is likely to start during the current financial year. There is also a plan to recarpet the runway and associated ravements as a cost of Rs. 2 crores and expansion and modifica-

tion of terminal Building at a cost of Rs. 3 crores during 8th Five Year Plan. Since the size of the 8th Plan is yet to be finalised details have not been firmed up.

Statement

Details of amounts spent on strengthening/development of airports

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Airport	Actual expenditure during				
		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91
1	Guwahati	..	..	5.00	74.94	146.70
2	Dibrugarh	91.45	23.33	21.57	86.10	0.91
3	Dimapur	..	185.03	443.53	165.10	107.61
4	Imphal	33.22	202.03	166.00	115.23	42.04
5	Agartala	83.05	51.67	1.91	70.98	55.70

Re-constitution of Customers Advisory Committee

2500. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) when the first Customers' Advisory Committee for Eastern Region was formed by Indian Airlines and what was its composition then ;

(b) the details of suggestions made for improvement in customerservice by members of the said committee since its first constitution till its last tenure;

(c) the details of privileges/facilities and other powers, if any, enjoyed by the members of the said committee ;

(d) whether Indian Airlines propose to re-constitute the said committee for its Eastern Region and for other regions in the near future ; and

(e) if so, by when and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Regional Advisory Committee for Indian Airlines Eastern Region was formed in 1986 with S/Shri Jawahar Sengupta, C.R. Irani, Raghu Mody, Sajan Kumar Pasari, D.K. Jalan, Tarachand Singhal, C.L. Kejriwal, S. K. Rai, S.S. Bhartia, Dev Anand Mishra, S.K. Jhunjhunwala, S.S. Oberoi, Dr. M.K. Chhatri and Dr. P.C. Chunder as members.

(b) The membsrs of the Committee in various meetings made suggestions for improving the passenger services of Indian Airlines like reservations, airport handling and facilitation, inflight services, aircraft cleanliness, flight schedules, etc.

(c) No privileges/facilities or powers were conferred on the members excepting complimentary air passages for attending the meetings of the committee, if required, by outstation members.

(d) and (e) A decision in the matter is yet to be taken.

Delayed flight to Dibrugarh

2501. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has been observing punctuality of its services to Dibrugarh in the recent past ;

(b) if so, the details of delays of its flights to Dibrugrah during last two years ;

(c) whether Indian Airlines has also been analysing the reasons for dalays; if so, the outcome of such analysis for the last two years ;

(d) the details of specific steps, if any Indian Airlines proposes to enforce on-time performance of its services to Dibrugarh in the coming years ;

(e) the details of engineering facilities at present available at Dibrugarh Airport as well as engineering personnel posted by Indian Airlines at Dibrugarh; and